

**DECEMBER 2016/
JANUARY 2017**



MUCH COWARNE



HFWI WI House

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www.thewi.org.uk/herefordshire

<https://www.facebook.com/Herefordshirefederationofwomensinstitutes>

2016 Edition 10 — 25p.

Federation Chairman - Val Lewis

Federation Secretary - Pauline Shannon

HFWI Charity No: 1056051

The contributors to this newsletter are responsible for the accuracy of their information, and should be contacted direct with any queries .

OFFICE OPENING HOURS: Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30 – 2.30pm

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Dear Ladies

I have now been your Chairman for a complete year, it has flown by. I did not start very well with a car accident last December but I have thoroughly enjoyed the past year.

I have been to many WI meetings and have met lots of lovely WI ladies, I have had garden teas and eaten far too many gorgeous cakes and sandwiches. Being invited to your meetings and joining in with your celebrations are a lovely part of my job and I thank you all very much.

I have tackled challenges such as the Three Counties show and the renovations at WI house and I have just about survived.

My job has been made a lot easier by having such good support, Pauline, Jane and Brenda in WI house are such a good team, we all work well together usually with a lot of laughter, life should not be taken too seriously.

2016 has been a variable year with some WI's closing but a very big, new generation WI opening. They have 102 members and have a very busy agenda, Congratulations to Colwall Wings. We now have more members in our Federation than at this time last year, things are on the right track.

I would like to wish all members a very "Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year" and a very big Thank You to everyone for all of your support during my first year.

Val, Val Lewis, telephone: 01544 327700 Email: chair.hfwie@gmail.com

DIARY OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	COST	TIME
12 DECEMBER 2016	CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT	HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HEREFORD	£4.50	7pm
13 DECEMBER 2016	OUTING TO WINDSOR CASTLE	WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE	£40	8.00am
21 DECEMBER 2016	LA FILLE MAL GARDEE BALLET	CARDIFF	£42	8.00am
21 DECEMBER 2016	COACH TO CARDIFF	CARDIFF	£15	8.00am
20/21 MARCH 2017	TREASURERS' WORKSHOP	WI HOUSE, ST OWEN STREET, HEREFORD	tba	pm/am
31 MARCH 2017	DRIVER REFRESHER TRAINING	HAMPTON BISHOP	£25	All day
3/4 APRIL 2017	SECRETARIES' WORKSHOP	WI HOUSE, ST OWEN STREET, HEREFORD	tba	pm/am
24 APRIL 2017	ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING	THREE COUNTIES HOTEL, HEREFORD	TBC	10.30am
2 MAY 2017	PROGRAMME PLANNING	WI HOUSE, ST OWEN STREET, HEREFORD	tba	am only
28 MAY - 2 JUNE 2017	HAUNTED TALES HOLIDAY	CHESHIRE AND LANCASHIRE	£513	tba
7 JUNE 2017	NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING	LIVERPOOL	As advised	TBA
29 JUNE 2017	NEW MEMBERS & PRESIDENTS EVENING		tba	tba
23 JULY - 30 JULY 2017	HOLIDAY	SWITZERLAND	£899	tba

VACANCY AT WI HOUSE— We have a vacancy for a cleaner at WI House. This would involve a once a month visit for approximately two hours to carry out general cleaning duties at £7.50 per hour. If you know of anyone who would be interested in this role, can you please contact :- WI House on 01432 272268 or email fedsec.hfwie@gmail.com.

**Thank you to The Suttons WI for their donation of £50
towards Federation Funds**

*Please note that WI House will close at 2.30pm on Wednesday
14 December 2016 and will reopen on Tuesday 3 January 2017 at 9.30am*

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

HOLIDAY IN SWITZERLAND

23rd July—30th July 2017 Travel to the Swiss Alps and enjoy a trip on the Bernina Express. The tour is based at the 5 star Steignberger Grand Hotel, Belvedere. Included is a journey on the awesome Bernina Express Railway from Davos, high in the Alps, past lakes and glaciers to travel across the border to Tirano in Italy. Also included is a Davos travel card which allows free use of local transport, cable cars and mountain railways. We will be staying in France for the first and last of our 8 day holiday in France. We will also visit Klosters Church crossing the Albula Pass (which is closed in winter) and also a visit to the elegant and chic St Mortiz. Costings are £899 for 25 plus people, or reduced to £865 for 30 or more people.



Please contact Eileen Dilley AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to express an interest as hotels are busy at this time of year. Send an A5 stamped addressed envelope for brochure to Bramley, Sutton St Nicholas, Hereford, HR1 3AY. Telephone 01432 880527

HAUNTED TALES OF LANCASHIRE

28th May—2nd June 2017

Visit Lyme Park in Cheshire (where they filmed *Pride and Prejudice* with Colin Firth), then on to Samlesbury Hotel. The following day we have a full guided tour of the Ribble Valley, ghostly sightseeings in Clitheroe, later visiting the Sun Inn, Chipping - Lancashire's most haunted public house. The next day we go north to Skipton, enjoy a cruise on the Leeds and Liverpool canal and travel through the Yorkshire Dales. We then explore Pendle Witches country and visit Brodsworth Hall, before a visit to Samlesbury Hall to see ghosts in the evening! Cost is £513.

Please send an A5 stamped addressed envelope for brochure AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to Eileen Dilley, Bramley, Sutton St Nicholas, Hereford, HR1 3AY. Telephone 01432 880527

FEDERATION QUIZ

To be held on 17th March 2017 at 7pm at Ledbury, Dinedor and Pembridge - *see enclosure for full details*. Come along and join us for a great event. I have taken all your suggestions into consideration. The final is on 31st March 2017.

Eileen Dilley (contact details as above)

COLOURS FASHION SHOW

Thank you to everyone who attended the Fashion Show by Colours at Sutton St Nicholas on 21st October 2016. It was a great success. Let me know if you want me to book another one for next October. Eileen Dilley

DIGITAL NEWS

Please contact me if you require any help with your computer or tablet, your own WI Facebook page or website. The Herefordshire WI website address and Facebook address are always on the front page of the newsletter.

You can also advertise your WI events and your WI programmes on the Facebook page. If you would like me to put your 2017 programme on the website you may start sending them to me now. This appears next to your WI details on the 'Find a WI' page.

All of your submissions for the WI Forum are *always* published, either in full or edited depending on the space available. If you have been sending in items for the WI Forum and they do not appear in print or on the website, please do not hesitate to contact me or Pauline so that we can rectify matters. It is usually an email problem.

Alison Lord

digitalchampion.hfwi@gmail.com

01544 340256

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

International Evening

Africa was the topic of conversation in St John's Hall on Monday 7th November 2016. The simple meal of Bobotie, rice and vegetables was followed by typical desserts from the African Continent. Both Veronica and David Madgen shared many memories about their lives and their children in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia). David told about his work in the bush, a close encounter with a Leopard, and described some scenic pictures as well as showed a video of the Victoria Falls. Veronica shared a story about her pet monkey Jacko. An amusing video of young twin elephants having their daily bottle of milk, which they held in their trunks, was enjoyed by all.

Driver Refresher Training

Remember this event, for WI members only, is designed for drivers of all ages who want to be reassured that their driving is of a good safe standard. It is also suitable for those who may not have driven very much in the last few years and may have lost a little confidence.

Cost is £25 and will be at Hampton Bishop on 31 March 2017.

We are now able to accept later bookings so you can email with details up until 14th February 2017

Veronica Madgen at lusulu6875@btinternet.com
The Bungalow, Yarkhill, Hereford HR1 3ST

DENMAN REPORT

I was reminded the other day at a WI training day of one of the main aims of the WI, both locally and nationally. 'To advance the education of women and girls' is the phrase used in the constitution. I know this role is carried out every month and in every county WI, as part of our wonderful monthly meetings. But it also clarifies the need for a college to advance our education further. This is where Denman fits in; it adds another layer and another place and opportunity to advance our education. Courses attended at Denman, benefit the attendees but also our local groups, as things that we have learnt can be passed down at our monthly meetings. I remember, that last year our group, learnt how to make lovely silk decorated cards, something that a few of our ladies had learnt at Denman and then taught the rest of our group at a very enjoyable evening.

I do feel that Denman is very important in achieving the WI role of educating women, and as such should be cherished and continued. As I am sure many of you are aware, Denman is based in a beautiful Georgian mansion, which adds to its 'special' feel but also has its down side. Like any period property, day to day upkeep costs can be very costly. This is why Denman needs our help. The business of running courses is very healthy, but from time to time major maintenance issues need to be addressed.

Please, please support Denman! And many, many thanks to all our WI's who have kindly donated their raffle proceeds or run special events during the year to send money to the Denman appeal.

Members can donate direct on the justgiving.com site: <https://www.justgiving.com/nfwi-denman>

On this note, and after, I hope a very successful Residential Designer Day in November; I must now pass on some sad news.

Unfortunately, due to family and business commitments in Norfolk, where I will be spending more and more time, I have come to a very difficult decision that I will no longer be able to carry on the role of Denman Ambassador. I have enjoyed my role over the last 12 months, and urge anyone please to step up and fill this role as my replacement. It would suit an individual, or more than one person working as a team! I'm afraid that I need to step down immediately, and that if no one volunteers for this, then there will be no organised trips to Denman.

So please all, give this your full consideration. And contact myself or Val Lewis, if you feel you can help. Both Val and I will give our full support and help to anyone who would like to take on this role.

Linda Peberdy Denman Ambassador
01432 355187/07540772367 lin-

THE EXPERIENCE: SAVING DENMAN APPEAL



Calendar competition for 2018 - "A Member's Garden"
Don't forget to keep taking photos of your garden for the 2018 calendar competition

You can email to Val Lewis on chair.hfwie@gmail.com or send to Chesterwood, Eardisley, Hereford, HR3 6NS.
Telephone 01544 327700

The photo must be at least one MB resolution
The closing date is 1st March 2017

REMINDER—CALENDARS AND DIARIES We still have calendars and diaries available in WI House. Please let us have your orders as soon as you can. You can either collect from us or we can post out to you.

HANDICRAFTS CLUB

The club meets at the Salvation Army Citadel, Edgar Street on first Wednesdays, 11am—12.15pm. Subscription £6, visitors £1.00.

7 December - Stamps for Craftwork

4 January - Paperback Hedgehog

Enquiries please contact: Mrs Gaile Harris, Chairman Tel: 01432 649598

HFWI CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2016

Monday 12th December 2016 at Holy Trinity Church, Whitecross Road, Hereford.

Cost: £4.50 per person (to include mince pies and mulled wine at the close of the concert)

Time: 7.00pm

Contact Pat Lemin, Church End Barn, Upton Bishop, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 7UL
Telephone 01989 780397

Voting for resolution selection

In the recent issue of WI Life is the synopsis of the shortlist of resolutions for the 2017 National Annual Meeting. Every member is asked to consider the shortlist and to select **one** resolution they support the most and would like to take forward for further discussion and voting on at the Annual Meeting. These votes will be collated and the shortlist narrowed down to the final choice to be taken forward to the Annual Meeting. When the final list is announced, WIs should meet to cast their collective votes FOR or AGAINST each resolution. WI link delegates will then vote on behalf of WIs at the Annual Meeting.

Angela.Southwell

-

email janda.southwell@btinternet.com

SPOTLIGHT

Much Cowarne WI Stoke Lacy Village Hall

2nd Friday of the month 7.30pm

Much Cowarne Womens Institute was formed on December 6th 1929, where Mrs Edwin Bray was elected as president and the secretary was Miss Kitty Powell a post she held for one year until Miss Ethel Pitt (later to become Mrs Waldron) took on the post. The first competition was for a pink blancmange. Initially during the war despite petrol rationing and the 'Black Out', members continued to attend meetings until October 1940 when the suggestion to move meetings to the afternoon was deemed impossible and meetings were suspended until March 1941. The minutes record the work carried out by the WI during the war, 'knitting comforts for the forces', 'the packing of parcels to be sent to the soldiers', support for the women's land army and the preservation of fruit.

1965 was the Golden Jubilee year of the WI. The Much Cowarne scrap book won a certificate of Merit in the Cogan Cup competition organised by the Herefordshire Federation of WI's. Membership then was forty one.

Meetings were held at Much Cowarne School until its closure when they were moved to Stoke Lacy Village Hall, they took place on the second Friday of the month, which still continues today.



In 2015 two members, Mrs Betty Bowler and Mrs Mary Wells plus our chairman, Kathryn Bandfield who was also County Chairman, attended the Centenary Garden Party at Buckingham Palace which was a memorable day and it was a great honour to be invited. In the same year we passed the Centenary Baton from the Hereford Group to the Bromyard Group at the Wye Valley Brewery in Stoke Lacy. It was transported in a 1950 Bentley (see photo)

The membership today is 30 and we are known to be a welcoming friendly WI with many members spending time together outside of the WI.

We have a speaker and competition at all of our meetings and always have a delicious supper. Each year we try to have an outing, a Spring lunch and an annual garden party held in the garden of the president, this year the competition was 'a hat' (see photo) We also have a Christmas Party. We take part and take it in turn to host the Group Meeting and attend local WI's meetings when invited.

Our aim for the future is to encourage new members who we hope will bring new ideas and inspiration to ensure the continuation of Much Cowarne WI.

Our current President is Jenny Maund, Elaine Brown is the Secretary, she has held office since 1997 and has only missed 4 meetings and the treasurer is Sandra Ingram who has been in post since 1987 and has missed 6 meetings - both are invaluable.



Anyone wishing to join us is welcome to come along to any of our meetings or contact us for more information.

Next Month's Spotlight article will be on Munsley & District WI

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM
EVERYONE AT WI HOUSE

**COPY DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER
TUESDAY 3 JANUARY 2017**

Please note late contributors may not be accepted for the current Newsletter

ADVERTISEMENTS - DECEMBER & JANUARY

To place your advertisements, please contact Mrs. Ann Wood, Langtoft, Eardisley, Herefordshire, HR3 6PP
Tel.: 01544 327237 Email: annandrod.284@gmail.com Copy and Payment by the 1st of previous month.
SAE for receipt and cheque payable to HFWI.

ADVERTISE your church fete/sale, Charity event, delicious W.I. Teas, coffee mornings and entertainment, etc. 20p per word. PUBLICISE your business across the county from only £20 per monthly issue.
NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR BOX. TO SECURE YOUR SPACE SEND your advert, issue/months requested.

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Hereford. **FREEPHONE 0800 085 4425**
MOBILE: 07831 332226

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64 St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2PU
Toby Armitage
Phone 07760 316959

TAPESTRY CANVASES

Beautifully stretched and made into cushions, bell-pulls, rugs, etc. Cheltenham 01242 233883

WEA Workers Educational Association

Autumn Courses & Study Days in Hereford
Costumes & Culture, Art Appreciation, Geology,
Literature, Brewing.....

The WEA Course programme for adults in
Hereford offers all these and more.
For full details phone 01531 634 460
Email: herefordbranch@wea.org.uk or visit our
website: www.westmidlands.wea.org.uk

Hereford Decorative & Fine Arts Society

(HDFAS) 2016-2017 season of lectures on
Second Tuesdays, October - June

Arrive at 2.15 for lectures at 2.30
Held in the Ballroom of the Green Dragon
Hotel, Broad Street, Hereford
Tel: 01568 797703
www.hereford-dfas.org.uk

A Remarkable Christmas Experience

The Hall at Abbey-Cwm-Hir near Llandrindod Wells in Mid Wales is a celebrated tours venue with its
combination of gothic architecture, stunning interiors, fascinating collections and beautiful gardens. The
house will again be decorated in all 52 rooms for Christmas from 1st Nov 2016 to 6th Jan 2017.
Each room will have its own Christmas tree and individual decorative theme.
Entrance is £16.00pp for the house tour, or £14.00pp for groups or return visitors.
Bookings for individuals, small and large groups are now being taken on 01597 851727 or by emailing
info@abbeycwmhir.com. Gift vouchers are also available.

The right is reserved to refuse any article or Advertisement and to condense W.I. News.
We do not accept responsibility for any Advertisements published in the newsletter.

WI FORUM



Lucky members of **BRAMPTON BRYAN** enjoyed a visit to Hereford Museum's Resource Centre to see wonderfully preserved textiles, ranging from gold-thread embroidered Regency waistcoats to charming sun bonnets made of printed cotton, and a tiny pair of baby's boots made of red leather, which had obviously been so loved that the toe had been poked out! They hope to return to see more of the contents of this treasure-house of Herefordshire's history.

MUCH COWARNE'S meeting in September was a talk by Sarah Thomas of Bromyard, entitled "A Florist's Life". The floral arrangements demonstrated were donated to our evening raffle prizes. In October Anthony Legge, a well-known local butcher, spoke about his career. One of the most interesting points was how much the internet had benefited the business in recent years. Popular television programmes have also stimulated specialist orders.

LEDBURY welcomed Andrew Offer - a farmer/butcher from Whyte House, Puddleston who produces, butchers and markets his own lambs. During his demonstration Andrew butchered a whole lamb, showing the many cuts and giving advice as to how they could best be cooked. It was fascinating and informative with a number of members taking the opportunity afterwards to buy meat.

BISHOPSWOOD were joined by 30 members of Bishop's Cleeve WI in Gloucestershire in October. The speaker was Nicola Bradbear from 'Bees for Development' who work in more than 60 countries around the world. The main objectives of the charity are to alleviate poverty and to protect bees and biodiversity. Pollination is worth far more than money - no bees equal no flowers. Well pollinated coffee flowers, for example, produce 50% more coffee beans.

BOSBURY had a fantastic display of entries in their Craft & Produce Show, ranging from decorated chocolate cakes to bonfire floral displays, advent calendars, cross stitch greetings cards, and basket of vegetables. The entries were judged by their twinned WI, Bromyard, who had a very difficult job. The overall winner with the most points was Rosemary, 2nd was Janet, and 3rd Fiona. The winner of the Sunflower Challenge was Rosemary with a height of 11 feet 4 inches. Janet thanked us all for the beanie hats and blankets they had knitted for "Born on the Edge" which is a charity for premature babies in Uganda. These will be posted shortly.

THE SUTTONS heard from Kenneth Reeve about his experiences as a WW2 Evacuee. In November, we will have our Annual Meeting. The speaker will be David Hill and the title of his talk is Lost in Hereford.

In October, 12 **MUCH BIRCH** members went to Leominster to visit Grange Court. They were given a guided tour by volunteer guide Sue who told us the history of the building which was built in the 17th century by the King's carpenter, John Able, as a market hall serving a very successful and popular market. Sue's fascinating description of the market included the penalties for sharp practice - not nice! When the market declined the building had a chequered history but is now an attractive resource centre with a café. They enjoyed delicious soups and cheese scones for lunch and admired the embroidered panels showing Leominster history.

HOLMER'S Annual Meeting was held at the beginning of November. The re-elected President, Jenny Hare, spoke about the many, varied and exciting happenings which took place during the last year- the 75th since our WI's inauguration. After a delicious two course meal and a chance for members to vote for our WI motto for 2017, they all enjoyed a beetle drive. Somewhat chaotic and excellent fun! Recently, they had a lovely walk around Queenswood, followed by lunch. Just as the last mouthful had been consumed, the heavens opened with the full fury of a violent thunderstorm! They made it to our cars with seconds to spare! Margaret Powell kindly organised another skittles evening in the Golden Lion, Grandstand Road. Once again, Paula the landlady catered for us brilliantly. Where else could you get sausage, chips and bread and butter for £1? She even sorted out some veggie sausages for the non-meat eater. After a keenly contested competition, medals were awarded to the winning lady, Jane Jenkins and the winning man, Nathan O'Grady. Other recent outings include: - a visit to Winchcombe and Sudeley Castle, a visit to a silk enterprise in Tewkesbury and a fashion show in Sutton. The membership is increasingly covering a very broad spectrum of ages, ranging from folk in their twenties to those of a rather more mature nature (we're all 21 really!).

COLWALL WINGS enjoyed 'Wine Making and Tasting Elgar Wines' with Cathie Rolinson of Lovells Vineyard. They learnt about the history of Elgar wines, how a local vineyard produces its award winning wines. They tasted a selection of white and rosé wine and learnt some of the tricks when ordering wine in a restaurant. It was a fun evening enjoyed by all.

WI FORUM

Pictured are Cathie Rolinson of Lovells Vineyard with members of the WINGS committee: L:R Diane Taylor, Karen Martin, Linda Hales, Cathie Rolinson, Jane Stratton, Sarah Grout, Dawn Harford, Liz Hallam.



STAUNTON ON ARROW welcomed Lisa Fisher with 'Empowering with Colour'. Lisa has a business where she performs colour analysis for people to enable them to buy the correct colour clothes to suit their complexion and body shape. She encouraged them to go through their wardrobes and get rid of clothes they do not wear! Apparently we wear 15% of our clothes 85% of the time. She had much good advice on clothes and getting value for money from them, style, accessories, etc. and they all found her very interesting. She left

information about her various workshops.



The **WYE WOMEN** sewing group have completed their tablecloth. They presented it to members at the annual meeting. They have sewn various ideas connected to our city WI, and all present members have embroidered their signatures.



ALMELEY were delighted to welcome Rebecca Edmonds last month. She gave them a really inspirational talk on Clinical Hypnotherapy and the wonderful effects it can have. She ended her talk with 10 minutes of calm and relaxation which all the members really

appreciated. They would recommend her as a fascinating speaker.



At the Annual Meeting the Treasurer of **SALTMARSHE & DISTRICT** raised a laugh or two with witty comments included in her Accounts for the past year but Wendy, as ever, gained plaudits for her rendition from the Chair doing her whole Report in rhyme! Norma gave them some effective ideas for Christmas, in the way of craft - worked decorations. Her kit included glue, glitter, elastic bands, hairspray, cocktail sticks, plenty of ribbon, candles and collection of greenery from her own garden. Norma always manages to make everything look so very easy and the finished baubles, candles and table decorations were most effective and pleasing. Our picture shows Rachel bravely attempting to reproduce a ribbon bow under the watchful eye of Norma.

SPARKLING WYE Annual Meeting was followed by cheese tasting. A selection of delicious cheeses plus tasting notes had been put together by Truffles Delicatessen and there was local perry, crackers and grapes to accompany the cheeses. Members enjoyed the opportunity to chat as they tasted. The evening closed with coffee and biscuits.

TUPSLEY WI - On the evening of 17th October Tupsley hosted City Group Meeting at St John's Hall. The meeting was well attended with 70 ladies seated from six Institutes. After a lovely meal of soup and dessert the guest speaker Reg Moule, from the Gardening Programme on Hereford and Worcester Radio, spoke knowledgeably on his favourite subject and how he became qualified and interested in anything related to gardening. Members' questions were fully answered, and given half a chance, we could have spent another hour questioning and listening to Reg.

After the **UPTON BISHOP** Annual Meeting members took part in a fun quiz including a picture round and Royal questions, presented by Ann and Jacqui which everyone enjoyed; the winning team was given their prizes and the losing team their wooden spoons. Every team received chocolate Santas.



After the Annual Meeting in November **LEDBURY** had great fun making crowns - paper hats that don't fall off! Here you see the members hard at work supervised by Mary Stewart whose idea it was.

Go to WI News at www.thewi.org.uk/herfordshire where you will find **fuller versions** of all reports above.



Alison Lord, Forum Coordinator

wiforum.hfwi@gmail.com 01544 340256